

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT County Fire	(2) MEETING DATE 12/3/2013	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Laurie Donnelly, County Fire Marshal / 805-543-4244	
(4) SUBJECT Hearing to consider adoption of Ordinance Amending Chapter 16.10 of the San Luis Obispo County Code by Adopting and Amending the 2013 Edition of the California Fire Code; and Request for Use of Alternative Publication Procedures as authorized by Government Code Section 25124.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hold a Public Hearing to consider adoption of Ordinance Amending Chapter 16.10 of the San Luis Obispo County Code by Adopting and Amending the 2013 Edition of the California Fire Code; 2. Instruct the County Clerk to publish the summary in a newspaper of general circulation and post the full text in the clerk's office within 15 days after adoption of the ordinance. 			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? N/A
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. 5 min.) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est.____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Geoff O'Quest			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) - All districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: County Fire / Laurie Donnelly 805-543-4244

DATE: 12/3/2013

SUBJECT: Hearing to consider adoption of Ordinance Amending Chapter 16.10 of the San Luis Obispo County Code by Adopting and Amending the 2013 Edition of the California Fire Code; and Request for Use of Alternative Publication Procedures as authorized by Government Code Section 25124.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board

1. Hold a Public Hearing to consider adoption of Ordinance Amending Chapter 16.10 of the San Luis Obispo County Code by Adopting and Amending the 2013 Edition of the California Fire Code;
2. Instruct the County Clerk to publish the summary in a newspaper of general circulation and post the full text in the clerk's office within 15 days after adoption of the ordinance.

DISCUSSION

Every three years, the model construction and fire codes are republished to incorporate all code changes accepted by majority vote of members attending the annual code development meetings. The State of California adopts and amends the most recent edition of the codes, which are subsequently published by the Building Standards Commission. The Commission completed the adoption process for the 2013 edition of the California Building Standards Code, also known as Title 24. As a result, the new codes (2013 California Building, Residential, Mechanical, Plumbing, Electrical, Energy, Green and Fire Codes) will become effective statewide on January 1, 2014.

The California Health and Safety Code allows the County to amend provisions of the California Building Standards Code due to local climatic, geological, or topographical conditions. The action recommended is the opportunity to include amendments to codes that address unusual local conditions in the unincorporated areas of the County of San Luis Obispo. The proposed ordinance contains the findings required to justify the proposed Fire Code modifications.

TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The proposed ordinance will amend existing Chapters of the county code in order to bring it into alignment with the 2013 version of the California Fire Code. Changes made in the new version of the California Fire Code, and included in the proposed ordinance, are minor and of no significant impact.

Amendment changes for this adoption cycle are primarily for clarification. Staff recommends the following amendments to County code, in addition to those amendments which will adopt changes in the California Fire Code:

- In qualify structures, an increase in the allowable square footage before sprinklers are required.
- New tables in lieu of lengthy text in order to clarify the requirements for automatic sprinkler systems.
- Changes to the Fire Apparatus Access Road subchapter that allow the removal of less restrictive local amendments.
- Deferral of road design criteria to the County Public Works Department.

- Codification of existing standards for roof access and standpipes.
- Clarification of a procedure for public assemblage and events to ensure fire and life safety conditions keep our local events safe and successful.
- Minor editorial changes related to location within the code and numbering sections.

Past code adoptions by the County have included administrative and technical amendments to the construction codes to address special situations or conditions unique to the unincorporated areas of the County. Since there have been no changes in special "climatic, geologic, or topographic" conditions in County of San Luis Obispo, staff recommends that previous amendments be carried over to the new codes. Exhibit B illustrates actual text changes for all proposed amendments to the various codes. There are no new initiatives in this code adoption process; shaded text is either a continuation of an existing amendment to an adopted code or the incorporation of existing county code text into the new adopted code.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

The County Planning and Building Department will be affected by, and has been advised of, the changes to the California Fire Code.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no financial impacts.

RESULTS

Hearing these amendments on December 3, 2013 will allow them to become effective January 1, 2014. Adopting these amendments to County Code will improve the safety of the public and firefighters and reduce fire related loss to life, property and the environment.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Ord. Amend. SLO County CAL FIRE 2013
2. General Rule Exemption
3. SLO County 2013 with lines
4. County 2013 Fire Code Presentation